

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 IO-15 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10 NSAE-00

PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00 MBFR-04

SAJ-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 H-03 NSC-10 SS-15 ACDA-19 AEC-11

EB-11 CU-04 DRC-01 /173 W

----- 131065

R 030658Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2616

INFO USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA

USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USNATO

USMISSION USUN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12092

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UR

SUBJECT: CASEY CALL ON KUZNETSOV

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

1. SUMMARY. DURING CALL BY UNDER SECRETARY CASEY ON FIRST DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER KUZNETOSV, KUZNETSOV CITED BREZHNEV "OPTIMISIM" REGARDING MFN. KUZNETSOV PLUGGED FOR 10 PERCENT MILITARY BUDGET CUT, WDC AND NUF. HE ALSO FAVORED EXCLUSION OF "OBSERVERS" FROM WORKING GROUP SESSIONS AT MBFR TALKS, AND ACKNOWLEDGED DIFFICULTIES WITH WARSAW PACT ALLIES ON THIS POINT. END SUMMARY.

2. KUZNETSOV RECEIVED CASEY, ACCOMPANIED BY KOVNER OF EUR/SOV AND POL COUNSELOR, ON OCT 2. USA DIVISION CHIEF KORNIYENKO ALSO PRESENT ON SOVIET SIDE. CASEY WENT OVER MFN SITUATION, EMPHASIZING THAT THE ADMINISTRATION IS DETERMINED TO DEAL WITH THE PROBLEM IN CONGRESS BUT
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THAT CAREFUL HANDLING AND PATIENCE IS REQUIRED.

KUZNETSOV NOTED THAT BREZHNEV HAD EXPRESSED "OPTIMISM" THAT THE ADMINISTRATION CAN HANDLE THIS PROBLEM.

3. IN ENSURING DISCUSSION OF OBSTACLES TO DETENTE, CASEY POINTED OUT THAT OPINIONS ARE NEVER UNANIMOUS IN THE U.S. AND IN VIEW OF PAST HISTORY IT IS INEVITABLE THAT SOME PEOPLE CLING TO OLD VIEWPOINTS. SUCCESS IN SALT II WOULD BE IMPORTANT DEMONSTRATION TO PEOPLE OF U.S. THAT PROGRESS IS POSSIBLE IN U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS.

4. KUZNETSOV TURNED CONVERSATION TO SOVIET PROPOSAL AT UNGA FOR REDUCTION OF MILITARY BUDGETS BY 10 PERCENT OF 1973 LEVEL, WITH USE OF PART OF PROCEEDS FOR DEVELOPING PEACEFUL INDUSTRIES AT HOME AND ANOTHER PART FOR HELPING DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. HE POINTED OUT THAT "WE DO NOT YET KNOW THE REACTION OF OUR U.S. PARTNERS." HE SAID SOVIETS REGARD THEIR PROPOSAL AS IMPORTANT AND DESERVING SERIOUS CONSIDERATION. CASEY SAID THAT SOVIET PROPOSAL IS IMPORTANT, BUT IS STILL UNDER STUDY BY U.S. AND THEREFORE HE COULD NOT COMMENT. HE SUGGESTED THAT SALT PROVIDES A GOOD MODEL OF HOW WE COULD AGREE TO REDUCE EXPENDITURES FOR SPECIFIC ARMS AND THUS MAKE AVAILABLE MORE RESOURCES FOR WELFARE NEEDS OF OUR PEOPLES.

5. CASEY NOTED THAT STANLEY RESOR HAD BEEN APPOINTED TO HEAD U.S. DELEGATION AT VIENNA TALKS ON MBFR. HE ASKED WHETHER SOVIET DELEGATION HEAD HAD BEEN APPOINTED AND WHETHER SOVIETS HAD PROPOSALS READY TO MAKE IN VIENNA. KUZNETSOV COMMENTED THAT IT WAS INTERESTING HOW "WE" WORKED OUT PROBLEMS AT FIRST STAGE AND SAID SOVIETS HOPE FOR USEFUL AND CONTINUOUS COOPERATION BETWEEN U.S. AND SOVIET DELEGATIONS IN FORTHCOMING NEGOTIATIONS. HE SAID SOVIET DELEGATION HEAD IS NOT YET NAMED. INSTRUCTIONS TO SOVIET DELEGATION ARE NOW BEING PREPARED. HE SUMMARIZED SOVIET POSITION IN FOUR POINTS:

A. NO HARM TO SECURITY INTERESTS OF ANY STATE.

B. REDUCTIONS IN BOTH STATIONED AND INDIGENOUS TROOPS.
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C. STATIONED TROOPS SHOULD RETURN TO HOMELAND WITH THEIR ARMAMENTS.

D. ONLY THOSE PARTICIPATING IN REDUCTIONS SHOULD TAKE PART IN MAKING DECISIONS. THIS MEANS, IN SOVIET VIEW, THE ELEVEN STATES WHICH HAD FULL STATUS AT THE PREPARATORY TALKS.

6. KUZNETSOV WENT ON TO DISCUSS QUESTION OF "OBSERVERS" AT VIENNA, NOTING THAT IT HAD BEEN AGREED THAT THEY WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN DECISIONS. HE WONDERED IF U.S. AGREED THAT "OBSERVERS" WOULD BE INFORMED ABOUT SUBSTANCE OF TALKS BY MEANS OF ATTENDANCE AT PLENARIES. OR DID U.S. BELIEVE THEY SHOULD ATTEND WORKING GROUPS AS WELL? AMERICAN PARTICIPANTS IN CONVERSATION NOTED THAT U.S. IS STILL DISCUSSING MBFR MATTERS WITH ITS ALLIES.

7. KUZNETSOV COMMENTED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD SOME U.S. ALLIES WANTED TO PARTICIPATE IN ALL DECISIONS, AND "WE HAVE SAME PROBLEM WITH SOME OF OUR ALLIES." BUT SOVIETS ARE PROCEEDING ON BASIS THAT VIENNA UNDERSTANDINGS WILL GOVERN.

8. KUZNETSOV BROUGHT UP WORLD DISARMAMENT CONFERENCE, NOTING THAT IT HAD BEEN MENTIONED APPROVINGLY IN BOTH 1972 AND 1973 SUMMIT COMMUNIQUE, AND MAKING PITCH FOR POSITIVE STEPS TOWARD WDC BY UNGA AT CURRENT SESSION. CASEY COMMENTED THAT FOR THE PRESENT IT SEEMS THAT FORUMS SUCH AS SALT, WHICH CAN PRODUCE CONCRETE RESULTS, DESERVE PREFERENCE.

9. KUZNETSOV UNDERLINED IMPORTANCE OF U.S.-SOVIET AGREEMENT ON PREVENTION OF NUCLEAR WAR AND IN THIS CONTEXT BROUGHT UP NON-USE OF FORCE RESOLUTION. HE URGED THAT SECURITY COUNCIL SHOULD ACT ON NUF THIS YEAR "ALONG LINES WE HAVE AGREED BILATERALLY," BUT ACKNOWLEDGED THAT U.S. REPRESENTATIVES ARE "NOT HAPPY" WITH THIS IDEA. CASEY NOTED NEED TO TAKE ACCOUNT OF CONVENTIONAL AS WELL AS NUCLEAR ARMAMENTS AND SUGGESTED

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THAT U.S. AND SOVIETS SHOULD CONCENTRATE ON CONCRETE MEASURES IN DISARMAMENT FIELD.

10. IN RESPONSE TO QUESTION BY CASEY ABOUT POSSIBILITIES OF CEMA-EC RELATIONSHIP AND IMPACT ON POSSIBLE BILATERAL ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS, KUZNETSOV SAID USSR RECOGNIZES EXISTENCE OF COMMON MARKET BUT DOES NOT FAVOR CLOSED GROUPINGS WHICH DISCRIMINATE AGAINST OUTSIDERS. CEMA DOES NOT REJECT CONTACTS WITH COMMON MARKET, BUT THIS MUST NOT HAMPER BILATERAL TRADE. ONE THING WHICH BOTHERS SOVIETS IS TENDENCY OF COMMON MARKET TO GO BEYOND TRADE QUESTIONS AND TO PUT POLITICAL OBLIGATIONS ON MEMBERS AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS. IN THIS CONNECTION HE NOTED IMPORTANCE OF CSCE BASKET TWO, WHICH TOUCHES QUESTION OF EQUAL TRADE AND ELIMINATION

OF DISCRIMINATION. HE SAID HE WAS NOT INFORMED ABOUT
HOW FAR CEMA CONTACTS WITH COMMON MARKET HAD PROCEEDED.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MFN, MUTUAL FORCE REDUCTIONS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973MOSCOW12092
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS DUBS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731054/aaaabnkc.tel
Line Count: 172
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20-Sep-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <27-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CASEY CALL ON KUZNETSOV GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE
TAGS: PFOR, UR, US, (CASEY, WILLIAM J), (KUZNETOSV)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005